

Applic. No.: 10/607,523
Amdt. Dated September 24, 2004
Reply to Office action of July 8, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A device for protecting against electrostatic discharge and electromagnetic influences on electronic components in a housing, comprising:

an I/O shield covering a housing aperture formed in the housing and defined by wall surfaces of the housing;

an element extending through said I/O shield into the housing;
and

a sealing layer disposed between said I/O shield and the housing, to seal said sealing layer sealing said housing aperture and to form forming an electrical contact with the edges said wall surfaces of said housing aperture, said sealing layer including readily malleable electrically conductive material.

Claim 2 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said element is an electrical terminal or an operating element.

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Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein the housing has exterior wall surfaces, and the electrical contact with said sealing layer is formed at the exterior wall surfaces.

Claim 5 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein the housing has interior wall surfaces, and the electrical contact with said sealing layer is formed at the interior wall surfaces.

Claims 6-8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said sealing layer has dimensions exceeding dimensions of said housing aperture.

Claim 10 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said I/O shield has a U-shaped form.

Claim 11 (original). The device according to claim 1, wherein said I/O shield has a trough-shaped form.